

THE BEREAN LEAF

VOL. 40.

TORONTO, OCTOBER, 1906.

NO. 10.

Lesson L, October 7 THE TWO GREAT COMMANDMENTS Mark 12. 28-34, 38-44

GOLDEN TEXT.—Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart.—Mark 12. 30.

Read Matt. 22. 34. to 23. 39.

Memorize v. 30. 31.

LESSON TEXT.

28. And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all?

29 And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:

30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

32 And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but He.

33 And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbor as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.

34 And when Jesus saw that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, Thou art

not far from the kingdom of God. And no man after that durst ask him any question.

38 And he said unto them in his doctrine, Beware of the scribes which love to go in long clothing, and love salutations in the market places.

39 And the chief seats in the synagogues, and the uppermost rooms at feasts:

40 Which devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers: these shall receive greater damnation.

41 And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much.

42 And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing.

43 And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury:

44 For all they did cast in of their abundance, but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.

PLACE.—In the temple courts at Jerusalem.

TIME.—Tuesday, April 4, A.D. 30.

HOME READINGS.—Monday, The Two Great Commandments, Mark 12, 28-34. Tuesday, The Two Great Commandments, Mark 12, 35-44. Wednesday, Love to God, Deut. 6. 19. Thursday, Love to neighbor, Lev. 19. 9-18. Friday, Better than sacrifice, 1 Sam. 15. 16-23. Saturday, Outward show, Luke 11. 37-46. Sunday, A cheerful giver, 2 Cor. 9. 1-7.

LESSON HYMNS.

New Canadian Hymnal, Nos. 132, 179, 130.

MEANINGS MADE EASY.

The first commandment (v. 28)—The most important commandment, not the first in order. Israel (v. 29)—The ancient name of the Jewish people. Scribe (v. 32)—One who copied the Holy Scriptures. Discreetly (v. 34)—Wisely and in the right spirit. Doctrine (v. 38)—Teaching. Salutations

(v. 38)—Formal greetings. Uppermost rooms (v. 39)—Places of honor. Devour (v. 40)—Rob. Treasury (v. 41)—The place of receiving money for the temple.

QUESTIONS TO HELP THE STUDENT.

A Sincere Inquirer.—Who was the discreet inquirer whom Jesus answered so fully in the first verses of our lesson? What was his question? What was the Master's answer? What is it to love God with the mind? Who in our time may be described as "not far from the kingdom of God?" May every sincere inquirer after truth expect an answer to his inquiry? Why did the Saviour show such hatred of religious pretense?

CHURCH CATECHISM.

22. How hath God provided redemption for mankind? God hath provided redemption for mankind by His gift of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself a ransom for all.

Lesson II., October 14

THE TEN VIRGINS

Matt. 25. 1-13

GOLDEN TEXT.—Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.—Matt. 25. 13.

Read Matt. 24. 1-51.

Memorize v. 1, 2.

LESSON TEXT.

1 Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.

2 And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.

3 They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them:

4 But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

5 While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.

6 And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.

7 Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.

8 And the foolish said unto the wise,

Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.

9 But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.

10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.

11 Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.

12 But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.

13 Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

TIME.—Tuesday afternoon, April 4, A.D. 30.

PLACE.—In or near Jerusalem.

HOME READINGS.—Monday, The Ten Virgins, Matt. 25. 1-13. Tuesday, Coming of the Son of man, Matt. 24. 23-31. Wednesday, The closed door, Luke 13. 24-30. Thursday, "I know you not," Matt. 7. 15-23. Friday, Be ye ready! Matt. 24. 36-44. Saturday, "The day of God," 2 Pet. 3. 8-11. Sunday, Watch! 1 Thess. 5. 4-11.

LESSON HYMNS.

New Canadian Hymnal, Nos. 161, 160, 460.

MEANINGS MADE EASY.

Which (v. 1)—More properly in the English of to-day "who." Virgins (v. 1)—Young women. Wise (v. 2)—Having knowledge and foresight. Open to us (v. 11)—Let us enter. Son of man (v. 13)—A title used by Jesus in speaking of himself.

CHURCH CATECHISM.

23. Who is Jesus Christ? Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, the Second Person in the glorious Trinity, who for us and for our sins became man, and so was, and continueth to be, truly God and perfect man, in two distinct natures and one person forever.

Lesson III., October 21

THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS

Matt. 25. 14-30

GOLDEN TEXT.—A Faithful man shall abound with blessings.—Prov. 28. 20.

Read Luke 19. 11-27.

Memorize v. 21.

LESSON TEXT.

14 For the kingdom of heaven is as a man traveling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.

15 And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

16 Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.

17 And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

18 But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.

19 After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.

20 And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.

21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast

been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

22 He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents; behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.

23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

24 Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed:

25 And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.

26 His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:

27 Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.

28 Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.

29 For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.

30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

TIME.—Tuesday afternoon, April 4, A.D. 30.

PLACE.—In or near Jerusalem.

HOME READINGS.—Monday, The Parable of the Talents, Matt. 25. 14-30. Tuesday, Parable of the pounds, Luke 19. 12-27. Wednesday, The wicked husbandman, Matt. 21. 33-43. Thursday, Faithful and unfathful, Luke 12. 41-48. Friday, Use of talents, Rom. 12. 1-8. Saturday, Fruitful service, 2 Pet. 1. 1-11. Sunday, Reward of faithfulness, 2 Tim. 4. 1-8.

LESSON HYMNS.

New Canadian Hymnal, Nos. 437, 439, 436.

MEANINGS MADE EASY.

Goods (v. 14)—Money, merchandise, and other property. Talent (v. 15)—A measure or weight. Money in large sums was in ancient times, as now, weighed instead of counted. There were both gold and silver talents. The silver talent in the time of Christ was worth about \$1,200 in our money. The talent of gold was worth three or four times that sum. Reckoneth (v. 19)—Make a settlement. Slothful (v. 26)—Lazy; not diligent. Usury (v. 27)—Interest.

QUESTIONS TO HELP THE STUDENT.

Trusted Talents.—In what sense are ~~the~~ money, speech, educational and

religious opportunities, social station, and the like, talents which have been intrusted? How may each of these talents be increased an hundredfold? Who are most likely to neglect intrusted talents—those who have many or those who have few? Is it customary for most men to despise little things? Count up in thought all the chief talents and blessings of various sorts for which you should be grateful and for which you will be held accountable. Which of these are you improving, and which are you neglecting?

The Man with One Talent.—Count up the faults of the man in this parable who had but one talent. May a person still be useful though his natural gifts and equipment for life be less than those of another? Has the person with but one talent any just reason for envying others? What are the possibilities open to the man with but one talent?

CHURCH CATECHISM.

24. How doth Jesus Christ accomplish the work of redemption? Jesus Christ doth accomplish the work of redemption, as Prophet, Priest, and King, by revealing to us the grace and truth of God the Father, by making atonement for sin and intercession for sinners, and by ruling in His Church and over the world for the world's salvation.

Lesson IV., October 28 JESUS ANOINTED IN BETHANY

Matt. 26. 6-16

GOLDEN TEXT.—She hath wrought good work upon me.—Matt. 26, 10.

Read Mark 14. 1-11; Luke 7. 36-50.

Memorize v. 12, 13.

LESSON TEXT.

6 Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper.

7 There came unto him a woman having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on his head, as he sat at meat.

8 But when his disciples saw it, they had indignation, saying, To what purpose is this waste?

9 For this ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor.

10 When Jesus understood it, he said unto them, Why trouble ye the woman? for she hath wrought a good work upon me.

11 For ye have the poor always with you; but me ye have not always.

12 For in that she hath poured this ointment on my body, she did it for my burial.

13 Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her.

14 Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests,

15 And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver.

16 And from that time he sought opportunity to betray him.

TIME.—Verses 6-13, Sabbath evening, Saturday, April 1, A.D. 30; verses 14-16. Tuesday, April 4, A.D. 30.

PLACES.—Bethany and Jerusalem.

HOME READINGS.—Monday, Jesus Anointed in Bethany, Matt. 26. 6-16. Tuesday, Value of the ointment, Mark 14. 1-9. Wednesday, John's narrative, John 12. 1-11. Thursday, Mary's choice, Luke 10. 38-42. Friday, Another anointing, Luke 7. 36-50. Saturday, Passing knowledge, Eph. 3. 8-19. Sunday, All for Christ, Phil. 3. 1-11.

LESSON HYMNS.

New Canadian Hymnal, Nos. 121, 129, 115.

MEANINGS MADE EASY.

Simon the leper (v. 6)—A man named Simon, who had been a leper. Probably he had been healed by Jesus. Ointment (v. 7)—A fragrant, perfumed oil. Judas Iscariot (v. 14)—One of the disciples who shortly afterward betrayed Jesus. Thirty pieces of silver (v. 15)—Thirty silver coins

of a certain denomination. To betray him (v. 16)—To point him out to his enemies.

QUESTIONS TO HELP THE STUDENT.

A Good Work.—What prompted Mary's deed? How did she show her love and esteem for Jesus? What service of love and gratitude may be rendered to Jesus in our time? Are love and its gifts ever wasted?

An Evil Deed.—Was Judas a traitor from the start? How did his treason begin? What was the difference between the sin of Judas and that of Peter? Is moral degeneracy always gradual in process? Is there such a thing as a neutral ground between the upward and the downward life? Which way does your life trend?

CHURCH CATECHISM.

25. What is the Atonement? The atonement which Christ hath made for sin is that offering of Himself as the gift of the Father's love in which He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross, and for the sake of which God doth forgive sin.

TORONTO: WILLIAM BRIGGS, PUBLISHER

MONTREAL, QUE.: C. W. COATES

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